

TOWN OF ACTON
SIDEWALK COMMITTEE MEETING
Minutes of September 15, 2010

7:00 p.m.

Acton Memorial Library Conference Room

Next Committee Meeting: Wednesday, Oct 13, 2010, 7:00 p.m. Acton Memorial Library Conference Room.

Present: Kate Chung, Sytske Campbell, Dana Snyder-Grant, Pam Cochrane, Steve Evans, Dick Calandrella, Leslie Hogan.

Meeting was called to order by co-chair Kate.

Citizen Concerns:

Several citizens joined us later in the meeting and their input is noted within.

Procedural Matters:

- The August 2010 **minutes** were accepted.

Recap of meeting with the Town Engineering Dept, Corey York:

Main Street: Done! Except Isaac Davis trail crossing, which is out to bid now, which will be covered with asphalt topped with stone dust (+ the island at Post Office Square).

High Street: (#30-#46) paved this week.

(77 to Parker): Engineering may take pencil sketch plans to homeowners this winter.

Route 2A: Surveying is out to bid for this winter, both parts to be done as one long stretch.

Taylor Road: Most permissions to survey property have been returned; about 20 have not. The sidewalk committee will resend letters and followup with a phone call. Addresses were divided among committee members present. Meg Hargreaves of 62 Taylor Road joined us for this part of the discussion. We suggested she email Town Engineering Corey York with about her difference in interpretation of parts of the recent traffic survey of Taylor Street.

- Kate will talk with Engineering about inclusion of Coughlin Street.
- Kate will find and resend to us the phone script we have used in the past.
- All: resend letters for permission to survey properties, then followup with a phone call a few days later.

Summer Street: The section of the road from Ethan Allen to Boxborough will be included in the surveying to be done. (Food Pantry re the permanence of their use of their Summer St location: they are on a 5 year lease). The sidewalk committee will await

the survey before voting on whether to recommend adding this section to the other Summer Street sidewalk work to be done.

Capizzi site plan (840 Main) between NARA park and the assisted living facility –wants to give \$20k to the sidewalk fund, in lieu of building a sidewalk. Outcome not yet known.

232 Arlington Street – plans were fine, from the sidewalk committee view.

South Acton Train Station –

Our sidewalk committee concern is any overshadowing of the MBTAs commitment to construct pedestrian gates at the 4 railroad crossings in town, which is to be done as part of the doubletracking project. We expressed intention to send a person to meetings with the MBTA about the South Acton Train Station “to keep the MBTA from forgetting about the crossings”.

Pope Road:

We received a citizen letter of request for completion of the sidewalk on Pope road, where it is now just a dirt path, northwest from Stoneymeade Way.

- Leslie will evaluate (fill out a Sidewalk Evaluation form), for next meeting.

Possibility of collaboration with the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail.

Tom Michelman, the President of the Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, joined us for discussion. We used a large BFRT map for illustrating discussion. Steve distributed a page entitled “Thoughts on Acton sidewalk committee collaboration with BFRT (Bruce Freeman Rail Trail <http://www.brucefreemanrailtrail.org>) 8/23” Summary of discussion: 6.8 miles are built from Lowell to the Acton town line. The Preliminary or 25% design of the trail in Acton is complete (this is called phase 2A, from Carlisle to Teamworx in Acton off of 2A). \$ were allocated by the state in June, through 100% design, up to construction. There is proposed parking at on town owned land at 1019 Main Street. The trail provides access to NARA park and parallels route 27, then southward along the west side of Route 2A. Route 2A will be crossed by a pedestrian bridge. Funding for construction is now officially in the 2021 long range plan, but an educated “best guess” is more likely 2014-2015. Plowing of the trail has not been committed to. The sidewalk committee should stay abreast of the plans, and collaborate / coordinate (through the Engineering department) areas of mutual interest such as pedestrian and bike access points to the trail, parking, use of the trail as an access path to locations of interest.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Evans

Open Meeting law requires that the following must be included in the minutes:

- ✓ Date, place, time and matters discussed.
- ✓ Summaries of discussions
- ✓ List of documents used
- ✓ Decisions made
- ✓ Actions taken
- ✓ Record of all votes (yeas, nays and abstentions).
- ✓ A list of all documents and other exhibits, such as photographs, recordings, maps and presentations used by the body at the open or executive session.

Future Meetings Planned:

October 13, 2010

November 10, 2010

December 8, 2010